

REMARKS

Claims 10, 18, 20, 25 and 26 have been canceled. Claims 5-9, 11-17, 19 and 21-24 remain active in the case. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The present invention relates to a hair bleach or dye composition that provides less of an offensive odor, exhibits excellent hair bleaching power, hair dyeing power and an excellent hair-conditioning effect.

Claim Amendments

Claims 5 and 15 have been amended by including the limitation of Claims 10 and 20 respectively therein. Further, each of Claims 5 and 15 have been amended so as to clarify that the first aqueous component is a first aqueous alkali component and that the second component is an aqueous oxidation component. Further, many of the claims have been simplified by stating that amounts of components and ingredients in the claims are based on the weight of the entire composition. Claim 19 has been amended to delete inclusion of the term "a direct dye." Accordingly, none of the amendments that have been made are believed to have introduced new matter into the case, nor are they believed to have raised new issues. Entry of the amendments into the record is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejection, 35 USC 112

The issue raised under 35 USC 112 with respect to Claim 18 is believed resolved by the cancellation of the claim from the case.

As to the matter raised with respect to each of Claims 5 and 15, applicants have clarified the description of the first component as a first aqueous alkali component. This language is believed sufficient to distinguish this component from the second component which is a second aqueous oxidation component. As to the subject matter of Claims 7 and 17, these claims introduce the aspect of the invention in which a third component is included in the oxidation dye compositions of claims 5 and 15 which is another or second oxidizer component. This feature of the present claims is quite characteristic of oxidation dye compositions known in the art as many of such indeed can contain a second or additional oxidizing component. Accordingly, having clarified the issue that has been raised, withdrawal of the issue is respectfully requested.

Claims 5-9, 15-19, 25 and 26 stand rejected based on 35 USC 103 over Bugaut. This ground of rejection is believed obviated by the amendments to Claims 5 and 15 which introduce the subject matter of the dependent claims 10 and 20 objected to therein. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 5-9, 15-19 and 21-26 stand rejected based on 35 USC 103 over Vidal. This ground of rejection is believed obviated by the amendments to Claims 5 and 15 which introduce the subject matter of the dependent claims 10 and 20 objected to therein. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter therein.

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It is now believed that the application is in proper condition for allowance. Early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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